IV. *Of the Nature of Silk, as it is made in* Piedmont, *Communicated by* William Aglionby, *Eſq*; *F. R. S.* V. *Two Propoſitions deſired to be Anſwered.* VI. *Part of a Letter from Mr.* Llwid, *to Dr.* Tancred Robinſon, *F.R.S. Concerning a Figured Stone found in* Wales: *With a Note on it, By* Hans Sloane, *M. D.*

I. *An Obſervation concerning a very odd kind of Dropſy, or Swellings in one of the Ovaries of a Woman, by* Hans Sloane, *M. D.*

Mrs. Browne, Aged about Twenty nine, of a Sanguine Complexion, had been Married about Four Years, in which time ſhe had had one Child: her Belly ſwell'd, and ſhe thought ſhe was with Child; ſhe had often great Hyſterick Fits, ſomething like thoſe of an Epilepſy, lying in her Fit ſometimes without ſenſe or Motion, at other times with great Screaming and idle talk. Theſe, with proper Remedies, were removed at ſeveral times with difficulty. Coming to be about ſix Months gone with Child (as ſhe thought) ſhe began to have ſome doubt whether it were ſo or not, becauſe ſhe had her *Catamenia* very regularly: I was of Opinion ſhe was not with Child, and would have treated her with Steel, and Purgers of Water, as Hydropically diſpoſed Bodies require; but ſhe fancying ſhe felt the

the Child ſtir, put a ſtop ſo that Courſe, and went on expecting the good Hour, having prepared all things for the Child to be Born, and herſelf during her Lying-in. She delayed the propoſed Method, for three or four Months beyond Nine, thinking ſhe had counted wrong; but at laſt ſhe was perſwaded to Medicines, and underwent a very ſtrict Courſe, as for Hydropick People; her Legs did not ſwell nor pit, her Belly was unequal, and the Swelling more of the Right-ſide, ſo that the Navel was thruſt over to the other, or left ſide. She had alſo reſolving Plaiſters applied to her Belly, but all in vain, excepting that with much Anxiety, Gripes, and Trouble, ſo much Water might be evacuated, as to bring down her Belly three or four Inches; ſhe then conſulted other Phyſicians and Quacks, but in vain; and finding her Breathing very difficult, and reduced to a very narrow compaſs, ſhe hearkened to a Tapping, or a *Paracenteſis*, which was propoſed by ſome as what would be the means of her Recovery. This was after a ſuitable Prognoſtick reſolved on, and performed at ſeveral times, by diſcharging great quantities, of firſt a limpid thick Serum, as whites of Eggs, inſipid and coagulable into the like Subſtance by heat; it came afterwards to the Colour and Conſiſtence of thin Honey, and Coagulated on Evaporation. In ſome time ſhe fell into a Fever, with a great Thruſh, Hickups, and in about Nine days dyed. Out of whoſe Body, when Diſſected after Death, was diſcharged ſome Buckets of the ſame Watery Subſtance that had been diſcharged by the *Paracenteſis*; part of this was floating in the *Abdomen*, but far the greater voided out of great and thick Bags, ſome of which were as large as the Stomach, others ſmaller, many of them rotted to pieces, and all of them in the right Ovary or Teſticle: the *Uterus*, *Tuba Fallopiana*,

piana, and every thing elſe being ſound, baring the *Omentum* which was quite conſumed; what was very ſtrange was, that ſeveral Bags of the larger ſize, in this Ovary, contained others ſmaller within them; and thoſe who were larger, were filled with a Mellaginous Liquor; thoſe ſmaller with one like Whites of Eggs. Here and there between were Apoſtems, which were but ſmall, and filled with yellowMatter. The Gall-Bladder was full of ſeveral Triangular yellow Stones. She was very lean all over her Body, and never had her Legs ſwell or pit; nor the noiſe of Water on her ſtirring in Bed, till ſome ſmall time before the *Paracenteſis*, when ſhe fell into ſo great an *Orthopnæa*, that ſhe could not, unleſs erect, Breathe.